44. (New) The catalytic composition according to Claim 41, wherein said zeolite is present in a quantity ranging from 70 to 90% by weight with respect to the total weight of the catalyst.

45. (New) The catalytic composition according to Claim 41, wherein said zeolite is present in a quantity ranging from 5 to 30% by weight with respect to the total weight of the catalyst.

46. (New) The catalytic composition according to Claim 41, wherein the metal of group VIB is molybdenum.

47. (New) The catalytic composition according to Claim 41, wherein cobalt is present in a quantity ranging from 1 to 10% by weight with respect to the total weight of the catalyst.

48. (New) The catalytic composition according to Claim 41, wherein cobalt is present in a quantity ranging from 2 to 6% by weight with respect to the total weight of the catalyst.

49. (New) The catalytic composition according to Claim 41, wherein the metal of group VIB is present in a quantity ranging from 4 to 20% by weight with respect to the total weight of the catalyst.

50. (New) The catalytic composition according to Claim 41, wherein the metal of group VIB is present in a quantity ranging from 7 to 13% by weight with respect to the total weight of the catalyst.

51. (New) The catalytic composition according to Claim 41, wherein cobalt and the metal of group VIB are present in a molar ratio no greater than 2.

52. (New) The catalytic composition according to Claim 41, wherein cobalt and the metal of group VIB are present in a molar ratio no greater than 1.

53. (New) The catalytic composition according to Claim 41, wherein the oxide comprises an element Z selected from the group consisting of silicon, aluminum, titanium, zirconium, and combinations thereof.

54. (New) The catalytic composition according to Claim 41, wherein the oxide is alumina or alumina mixed with an oxide selected from the group consisting of silica and zirconia.

55. (New) A process for the preparation of a catalytic composition, wherein the composition comprises a beta zeolite, a metal of group VIB, cobalt, and optionally one or more oxides as a carrier, comprising:

impregnating the beta zeolite with a solution comprising a salt of a metal of group VIB and a salt of cobalt;

drying the impregnated beta zeolite; and

calcinating said zeolite.

56. (New) A process for the preparation of a catalytic composition, wherein the composition comprises a beta zeolite, a metal of group VIB, cobalt, and one or more oxides as a carrier, comprising:

mixing the zeolite with the oxide;

extruding the mixture;

calcinating the mixture;

optionally reducing the sodium content of the mixture with an exchange process;

drying the resultant mixture;

impregnating said mixture with a solution containing a salt of a metal of group VIB;

drying the impregnated mixture;

calcinating the mixture;

impregnating said mixture with a solution of a salt of a cobalt;

drying the impregnated solution; and

calcinating said mixture.

57. (New) A process for the preparation of a catalytic composition, wherein the composition comprises a beta zeolite, a metal of group VIB, cobalt, and one or more oxides as a carrier, comprising:

a) preparing an alcoholic dispersion comprising a soluble salt of cobalt, a beta zeolite, and one or more organic compounds capable of generating the supporting oxide or oxides;

b) preparing an aqueous solution comprising a soluble salt of the metal of group VIB, and optionally, tetraalkylammonium hydroxide having the formula R_4NOH;

c) mixing the alcoholic dispersion and the aqueous dispersion to obtain a gel;

d) aging the gel at a temperature ranging from 10 to 40°C;

e) drying the gel; and

f) calcinating the gel.

58. (New) The process according to Claim 57, wherein the salt of cobalt is nitrate.

59. (New) The process according to Claim 57, wherein the organic compound capable of generating the oxide is the corresponding alkoxide, wherein substituents of the oxide have the formula (R'O)- wherein R' is an alkyl containing from 2 to 6 carbon atoms.

60. (New) The process according to Claim 59, wherein the alkoxide comprises an element Z selected from the group consisting of silicon, aluminum, titanium, zirconium, and mixtures thereof.

61. (New) The process according to Claim 59, wherein a trialkoxide having the formula $(R'O)_3Al$ is used, wherein R' is isopropyl or sec-butyl.

62. (New) The process according to Claim 59, wherein a trialkoxide having the formula $(R'O)_4Si$ is used, wherein R' is ethyl.

63. (New) The process according to Claim 59, wherein a trialkoxide having the formula $(R'O)_4Zr$ is used, wherein R' is isopropyl.

64. (New) The process according to Claim 57, wherein the soluble salt of the metal of group VIB is an ammonium salt.

65. (New) The process according to Claim 57, wherein the tetraalkylammonium hydroxide has the formula R_4NOH, wherein R is an alkyl group containing from 2 to 7 carbon atoms.

66. (New) A process for the preparation of a catalytic composition, wherein the composition comprises a beta zeolite, a metal of group VIB, cobalt, and one or more oxides as a carrier, comprising:

a) preparing an alcoholic dispersion comprising a beta zeolite and one or more organic compounds capable of generating the supporting oxide or oxides;

b) preparing an aqueous solution comprising tetraalkylammonium hydroxide having the formula R_4NOH;

c) mixing the alcoholic dispersion and the aqueous solution to obtain a gel;

d) aging the gel at a temperature ranging from 10 to 40°C;

e) drying the gel;

f) calcinating the gel; and

g) impregnating the calcined product with a solution comprising a salt of a metal of group VIB, drying the impregnated calcined product, calcinating the impregnated calcined product, and impregnating the product with a solution of a salt of cobalt, drying the resultant product, and calcinating the resultant product.

67. (New) A process for the preparation of a catalytic composition, wherein the catalytic composition comprises a beta zeolite, a metal of group VIB, cobalt, and one or more oxides, comprising:

a) preparing an alcoholic dispersion comprising a soluble salt of cobalt and one or more organic compounds capable of generating the supporting oxide or oxides;

b) preparing an aqueous solution comprising a soluble salt of the metal of group VIB, and optionally, tetraalkylammonium hydroxide having the formula R_4NOH;

c) mixing the alcoholic dispersion and the aqueous dispersion to obtain a gel;

d) aging the gel at a temperature ranging from 10 to 40°C;

e) drying the gel;

f) mechanical mixing of the dried product with beta zeolite; and

g) calcinating the mixture.

68. (New) A process for the preparation of a catalytic composition, wherein the catalytic composition comprises a beta zeolite, a metal of group VIB, cobalt, and one or more oxides as a carrier, comprising:

a) impregnating the oxide carrier with a salt of a metal of group VIB and a salt of cobalt;

b) drying and calcinating the impregnated material of step a); and

c) mixing the impregnated oxide obtained in step b) with the beta zeolite.

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-31 and 33-40 are canceled and rewritten as new Claims 41-68 for clarity and to comply with proper claim format, such as eliminating multiple dependent claims that do not refer to other claims in the alternative. Support for new Claims 41-68 is found at pages 1-